



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Hideyoshi HORIMAI

Application No.: 09/601,702

Filed: August 4, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2872

Examiner: J. Henry

Docket No.: 106357

#9
Election

U. McMillan

3/18/02

For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR RECORDING OPTICAL INFORMATION,
APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR REPRODUCING OPTICAL INFORMATION,
APPARATUS FOR RECORDING/REPRODUCING OPTICAL INFORMATION, AND
OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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In reply to the Restriction Requirement mailed February 22, 2002, Applicant
provisionally elects Group I, claims 2, 8 and 17, with traverse.

W. J. McMillan

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently
related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims would
encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully
submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without
serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and examination of
the entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on
the merits even though it includes claims to distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis
added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present application in
order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicant and duplicative examination by
the Patent Office.

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Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: March 12, 2002

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